MEMORANDUM

TO:	Rick Viergutz, SCV Water Sarfaraz Alam, SCV Water Laura Gallegos, SCV Water
FROM:	Katie Evans, Woodard & Curran Leah Makler, Woodard & Curran
DATE:	March 12, 2026
RE:	Outreach Updates

1. Purpose

The purpose of this technical memorandum is to provide a summary of outreach efforts related to the Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update, particularly since Workshop #1 in January.

2. Outreach Activities

2.1 Website Evaluation

The following changes were made to the GSA website to improve public understanding of the Periodic Evaluation process:

- A timeline including dates of workshops, board meetings, and deadlines was added to the main GSA page.
- A new Periodic Evaluation page was added to the website, which includes a section on GSP background, the purpose and objectives of the Periodic Evaluation, and an outline of the major topic areas to be addressed throughout the process.

These changes are described in the Website Updates Memo.

2.2 Contact List Gap Analysis

Woodard & Curran thoroughly reviewed the SCV's existing outreach lists. The contact lists included a broad range of public agencies, environmental groups, and community members. Notable gaps included representatives from disadvantaged communities, property management or homeowner organizations, or agricultural groups and land use agencies. Supplemental research led to the identification of several organizations to add to SCV's outreach lists. Woodard & Curran has contacted organizations from this analysis and offered to include them in further communication; however, no organization has responded that offer. These activities are described further in the Contact Gaps Memo.

3. Workshop Promotion

Leading up to the February and March workshops, the Communications team provided notices on social media and sent two emails to multiple interested party lists which included the most recent SCV GSA interested party list, the Urban Water Management Plan list, and a larger basin-wide email list comprised of SCV Water customers.

4. Workshop Attendance and Feedback Gathered

4.1 Workshop 2

Workshop 2 focused on DWR's recommended corrective actions (RCAs) related to water quality. The meeting was a hybrid of virtual and online participation. There was 1 attendee present at the meeting, and there were 6 virtual attendees. Following the technical presentation on the RCAs and the proposed approach, attendees were asked to participate in a Menti poll. A major focus of the engagement was related to the groundwater quality data gaps due to a lack of samples from domestic wells. There were several open-ended questions, as summarized below:

1. How can we best reach private well owners?

   Respondents provided the following suggestions:

   - Contact a local well owners association.
   - Host a water testing event.
   - Reach out to fire departments, because well owners are required to have certain volumes available for firefighting.

2. How can we incentivize well owners to participate in monitoring programs.

   Respondents provided the following suggestions:

   - Ensure total privacy and emphasize that they would not be subject to any fees.
   - Provide gift cards or other compensation for testing.
   - Provide education on water quality.

3. Do you have any other ideas related to water quality?

   There were no responses.

4. What do you think about the approach to SMCs?

   All respondents agreed with the approach.

4.2 Workshop 3

Workshop 3 focused on DWR's RCAs related to chronic lowering of groundwater levels. There were 4 virtual attendees. Following the technical presentation, the attendees were asked to participate in a poll. There were several open-ended questions, summarized below:

1. When you hear "undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels," what does that mean to you in practical, real-world terms?
   Respondents provided the following answers:
   - Groundwater levels reaching defined thresholds which are designed to avoid impacts on habitat and prevent chronic lowering of water levels.
   - A significant drop in groundwater levels relative to long-term trends that would cause some supply wells to go dry.

2. What other ideas would you like the GSA to consider in describing undesirable results related to groundwater levels?

   One respondent provided the following answer:

   - Describe how undesirable results would appear in groundwater-dependent ecosystem (GDE) habitat.

3. How could the SCV-GSA protect groundwater levels while minimizing impacts on you?

   One respondent provided the following answer:

   - Optimize the water-supply mix to best maintain groundwater levels that support GDE habitat.

4. What questions do you have about how groundwater levels and surface water conditions are connected in this basin?

   There were no responses to this question.

5. Is there any specific data or information you would like to see in our next workshop?

   One respondent provided the following request:

   - An overview of how the groundwater flow model works and how it is used to establish Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs).

5. Next Steps

Staff and the consulting team will continue public outreach and engagement efforts as the Periodic Evaluation process moves forward. The next public workshop (Workshop 4) is scheduled for May 4, 2026, and will focus on revised groundwater level Sustainable Management Criteria and updates to the groundwater flow model. This workshop will provide an opportunity to share how stakeholder feedback received to date has been incorporated and to gather additional input on proposed refinements. Information about the workshop, including registration details, will be posted on the SCV-GSA website.

In advance of the May 4 workshop, SCV Water staff and the consulting team will meet to discuss additional strategies to encourage broader participation in upcoming meetings. These discussions will focus on identifying potential barriers to attendance and exploring enhanced outreach approaches to better reach key stakeholder groups, including private well owners and other underrepresented interests.

6. Summary

Since Workshop #1 in January, staff and the consulting team have implemented several outreach improvements to support the Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update, including enhancements to the project website, a review and expansion of outreach contact lists, and targeted promotion of public workshops. Three workshops have been held to date, providing stakeholders with opportunities to learn about DWR's RCAs and to share feedback on groundwater quality and groundwater level Sustainable Management Criteria. Input received through these workshops has helped identify data gaps, clarify community priorities, and inform the focus of upcoming engagement efforts as the Periodic Evaluation continues.